

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 4, line 26 with the following amended paragraph:

The compounds of the invention can be prepared by means of or analogous to the methods as described by Burg et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. 59, 780 (1936~~1937~~) for  $\text{BH}_3\text{CO}$ ; Malone et al., Inorg. Chem. 6, 817 (1967) for  $\text{M}_2[\text{H}_3\text{B-COO}]$  and  $\text{M}[\text{H}_3\text{B-COOC}_2\text{H}_5]$ ; Howe et al., Inorg. Chem. 10, 930 (1971) for  $\text{M}[\text{H}_3\text{B-CONH}_2]$ ; Spielvogel et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. 102, 6343 (1980) for  $[\text{H}_3\text{N-BH}_2\text{-COOH}]$  and  $[(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N-BH}_2\text{-CONHC}_2\text{H}_5]$ ; Spielvogel et al., Inorg. Chem. 23, 4322 (1984) for  $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{N-BH}_2\text{-COOCH}_3]$ ; Spielvogel et al., Inorg. Chem. 23, 1776 (1984) and J. Am. Chem. Soc. 98, 5702 (1976) for  $[\text{H}_3\text{N-BH}_2\text{-CONH}_2]$ ,  $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{HN-BH}_2\text{-CONHC}_2\text{H}_5]$ .